

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S3103–S3157

Measures Introduced: Nineteen bills and three resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 1210–1228, and S. Res. 176–178. **Pages S3145–46**

Measures Reported:

S. 190, to provide for consideration of the extension under the Energy Policy and Conservation Act of nonapplication of No-Load Mode energy efficiency standards to certain security or life safety alarms or surveillance systems. (S. Rept. No. 115–76)

S. 215, to authorize the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to issue an order continuing a stay of a hydroelectric license for the Mahoney Lake hydroelectric project in the State of Alaska. (S. Rept. No. 115–77)

S. 226, to exclude power supply circuits, drivers, and devices to be connected to, and power, light-emitting diodes or organic light-emitting diodes providing illumination or ceiling fans using direct current motors from energy conservation standards for external power supplies. (S. Rept. No. 115–78)

S. 239, to amend the National Energy Conservation Policy Act to encourage the increased use of performance contracting in Federal facilities. (S. Rept. No. 115–79)

S. 723, to extend the deadline for commencement of construction of a hydroelectric project, with amendments. (S. Rept. No. 115–80)

S. 724, to amend the Federal Power Act to modernize authorizations for necessary hydropower approvals. (S. Rept. No. 115–81)

S. 730, to extend the deadline for commencement of construction of certain hydroelectric projects. (S. Rept. No. 115–82)

S. 734, to extend a project of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission involving the Cannonsville Dam, with amendments. (S. Rept. No. 115–83)

S. 245, to amend the Indian Tribal Energy Development and Self Determination Act of 2005. (S. Rept. No. 115–84)

S. 343, to repeal certain obsolete laws relating to Indians. (S. Rept. No. 115–85)

S. 1094, to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the accountability of employees of the Department of Veterans Affairs, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. **Page S3145**

Measures Passed:

Fred D. Thompson Federal Building and United States Courthouse: Senate passed H.R. 375, to designate the Federal building and United States courthouse located at 719 Church Street in Nashville, Tennessee, as the “Fred D. Thompson Federal Building and United States Courthouse”. **Page S3111**

Congratulating the Webster University Chess Team: Senate agreed to S. Res. 177, congratulating the Webster University chess team for winning a record-breaking fifth consecutive national title at the President’s Cup collegiate chess championship in New York City. **Page S3150**

Authorizing Representation in United States v. Kevin Lee Olson: Senate agreed to S. Res. 178, to authorize testimony, document production, and representation in *United States v. Kevin Lee Olson*. **Pages S3150, S3151**

Securing our Agriculture and Food Act: Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs was discharged from further consideration of H.R. 1238, to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to make the Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security for Health Affairs responsible for coordinating the efforts of the Department of Homeland Security related to food, agriculture, and veterinary defense against terrorism, and the bill was then passed, after agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto: **Pages S3151–52**

Sullivan (for Roberts/McCaskill) Amendment No. 217, to preserve the authority of the Secretaries of Agriculture and Health and Human Services and make a technical correction. **Pages S3151–52**

Thapar Nomination—Agreement: Senate resumed consideration of the nomination of Amul R. Thapar, of Kentucky, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Sixth Circuit. **Pages S3124–29**

During consideration of this nomination today, Senate also took the following action:

By 52 yeas to 48 nays (Vote No. 136), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. **Page S3124**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that notwithstanding the provisions of Rule XXII, the vote on confirmation of the nomination occur at 1:30 p.m., on Thursday, May 25, 2017.

Page S3150

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the nomination at approximately 10:30 a.m., on Thursday, May 25, 2017; and that all time during morning business, recess, adjournment and Leader remarks count post-cloture on the nomination. **Page S3150**

Nomination Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nomination:

By 94 yeas to 6 nays (Vote No. EX. 135), John J. Sullivan, of Maryland, to be Deputy Secretary of State. **Pages S3106–11, S3111–24, S3157**

Messages from the House: **Pages S3138–39**

Measures Referred: **Page S3139**

Executive Communications: **Pages S3139–40**

Petitions and Memorials: **Pages S3140–45**

Executive Reports of Committees: **Page S3145**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S3146–47**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Pages S3147–49**

Additional Statements: **Pages S3137–38**

Amendments Submitted: **Page S3149**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Page S3149**

Privileges of the Floor: **Pages S3149–50**

Record Votes: Two record votes were taken today. (Total—136) **Page S3124**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 7:17 p.m., until 10:30 a.m. on Thursday, May 25, 2017. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S3150)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

NAVY AND MARINE CORPS BUDGET

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Department of Defense concluded a hearing to examine the President's proposed budget request and justification for fiscal year 2018 for the Navy and Marine Corps, after receiving testimony from Sean J. Stackley, Acting Secretary of the Navy, Admiral John M. Richardson, USN, Chief of Naval Operations, and Gen-

eral Robert B. Neller, USMC, Commandant of the Marine Corps, all of the Department of Defense.

A 355 SHIP NAVY

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on SeaPower concluded a hearing to examine industry perspectives on options and considerations for achieving a 355 ship Navy, after receiving testimony from Brian J. Cuccias, Huntington Ingalls Industries, and Ingalls Shipbuilding; John P. Casey, General Dynamics; and Matthew O. Paxton, Shipbuilders Council of America.

ATOMIC ENERGY DEFENSE ACTIVITIES AND PROGRAMS

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Strategic Forces concluded a hearing to examine Department of Energy atomic energy defense activities and programs, after receiving testimony from Frank G. Klotz, Under Secretary for Nuclear Security, Susan M. Cange, Acting Assistant Secretary for Environmental Management, and Admiral James F. Caldwell, Jr., USN, Deputy Administrator for Naval Reactors, National Nuclear Security Administration, all of the Department of Energy; and David C. Trimble, Director, Natural Resources and Environment, Government Accountability Office.

POOL SAFETY

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Subcommittee on Consumer Protection, Product Safety, Insurance, and Data Security concluded a hearing to examine pool safety, focusing on the tenth anniversary of the Virginia Graeme Baker Pool and Spa Safety Act, after receiving testimony from Karen Cohn, The ZAC Foundation, Greenwich, Connecticut; Richard Gottwald, The Association of Pool and Spa Professionals, Alexandria, Virginia; Connie Harvey, American Red Cross, Washington, D.C.; and Nancy Baker, Thomaston, Maine.

AMERICAN LEADERSHIP IN THE ASIA-PACIFIC

Committee on Foreign Relations: Subcommittee on East Asia, the Pacific, and International Cybersecurity Policy concluded a hearing to examine American leadership in the Asia-Pacific, focusing on economic issues, after receiving testimony from Tami Overby, U.S. Chamber of Commerce, Washington, D.C.; and Robert C. Orr, University of Maryland School of Public Policy, College Park.

BORDER INSECURITY AND MS-13

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine border insecurity, focusing on the rise of MS-13 and

other transnational criminal organizations, after receiving testimony from Timothy D. Sini, Suffolk County Police Department, Yaphank, New York; Scott Michael Conley, Chelsea Police Department, Chelsea, Massachusetts; and J. Thomas Manger, Montgomery County Police Department, Gaithersburg, Maryland, on behalf of the Major Cities Chiefs Association.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Vishal J. Amin, of Michigan, to be Intellectual Property Enforcement Coordinator, Executive Office of the President, Stephen Elliott Boyd, of Alabama, to be an Assistant Attorney General, Department of Justice, and Lee Francis Cissna, of Maryland, to be Director of United States Citizenship and Immigration Services, Department of Homeland Security, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

LAW ENFORCEMENT ACCESS TO DATA STORED ACROSS BORDERS

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Crime and Terrorism concluded a hearing to examine law enforcement access to data stored across borders, focusing on facilitating cooperation and protecting

rights, after receiving testimony from Brad Wiegmann, Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Department of Justice; Christopher W. Kelly, Office of the Massachusetts Attorney General, Boston; Paddy McGuinness, United Kingdom Deputy National Security Advisor, Oxford; Brad Smith, Microsoft Corporation, Redmond, Washington; and Jennifer Daskal, American University Washington College of Law, Washington, D.C.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship: Committee ordered favorably reported the nomination of Althea Coetzee, of Virginia, to be Deputy Administrator of the Small Business Administration.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Committee ordered favorably reported S. 1094, to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the accountability of employees of the Department of Veterans Affairs, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute.

INTELLIGENCE

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee held closed hearings on intelligence matters, receiving testimony from officials of the intelligence community.

Committee recessed subject to the call.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 33 public bills, H.R. 2617–2649; and 6 resolutions, H. Con. Res. 61–62; and H. Res. 353–356 were introduced. **Pages H4567–69**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H4570–71**

Reports Filed: There were no reports filed today.

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Hollingsworth to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H4507**

Recess: The House recessed at 11:29 a.m. and reconvened at 12 noon. **Page H4516**

Guest Chaplain: The prayer was offered by the Guest Chaplain, Pastor Becky Tirabassi, Viewpoint Church, Newport Beach, CA. **Pages H4516–17**

Question of Privilege: Representative Sanchez rose to a question of the privileges of the House and submitted a resolution. The Chair ruled that the resolu-

tion did not present a question of the privileges of the House. Subsequently, Representative Sanchez appealed the ruling of the chair and Representative Buck moved to table the appeal. Agreed to the motion to table the appeal of the ruling of the Chair by a yea-and-nay vote of 225 yeas to 187 nays with one answering “present”, Roll No. 274.

Pages H4523–25

Protecting Young Victims from Sexual Abuse Act of 2017 and Protecting Against Child Exploitation Act of 2017—Rule for Consideration: The House agreed to H. Res. 352, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1973) to prevent the sexual abuse of minors and amateur athletes by requiring the prompt reporting of sexual abuse to law enforcement authorities; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1761) to amend title 18, United States Code, to criminalize the knowing consent of the visual depiction, or live transmission, of a minor engaged in sexually explicit conduct, by a yea-and-nay vote of 239 yeas to 179 nays, Roll No. 276,

after the previous question was ordered by a ye-and-nay vote of 231 yeas to 188 nays, Roll No. 275.

Pages H4520–23, H4525–27

Suspensions—Proceedings Resumed: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures. Consideration began Tuesday, May 23rd.

Protecting the Rights of Individuals Against Technological Exploitation Act: H.R. 2052, to amend the Uniform Code of Military Justice to prohibit the wrongful broadcast or distribution of intimate visual images, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ ye-and-nay vote of 418 yeas with none voting “nay”, Roll No. 277; and

Page H4527

Veterans Affairs Scheduling Accountability Act: H.R. 467, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to ensure that each medical facility of the Department of Veterans Affairs complies with requirements relating to scheduling veterans for health care appointments, and to improve the uniform application of directives of the Department, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ ye-and-nay vote of 419 yeas with none voting “nay”, Roll No. 278.

Pages H4527–28

Suspensions: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

Amending title 5, United States Code, to require that the Office of Personnel Management submit an annual report to Congress relating to the use of official time by Federal employees: H.R. 1293, amended, to amend title 5, United States Code, to require that the Office of Personnel Management submit an annual report to Congress relating to the use of official time by Federal employees; and

Pages H4528–33

Social Security Fraud Prevention Act of 2017: H.R. 624, amended, to restrict the inclusion of social security account numbers on documents sent by mail by the Federal Government;

Pages H4533–35

Agreed to amend the title so as to read: “To restrict the inclusion of social security account numbers on Federal documents sent by mail, and for other purposes.”

Page H4535

Reducing Regulatory Burdens Act of 2017: The House passed H.R. 953, to amend the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act and the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to clarify Congressional intent regarding the regulation of the use of pesticides in or near navigable waters, by a recorded vote of 256 yeas to 165 noes, Roll No. 282.

Pages H4535–53

Rejected the McGovern motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure with instructions to report the same back

to the House forthwith with an amendment, by a recorded vote of 183 yeas to 230 noes, Roll No. 281.

Pages H4550–52

Pursuant to the Rule, an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 115–21 shall be considered as an original bill for the purpose of amendment under the five-minute rule.

Page H4545

Rejected:

Esty amendment (No. 1 printed in H. Rept. 115–145) that sought to ensure that existing clean water protections apply to the release of these toxic chemicals into the environment (by a recorded vote of 191 yeas to 229 noes, Roll No. 279); and

Pages H4545–46, H4549

Huffman amendment (No. 2 printed in H. Rept. 115–145) that sought to protect commercial, recreational and subsistence fisheries from the negative impacts of unregulated discharge (by a recorded vote of 189 yeas to 230 noes, Roll No. 280).

Pages H4546–48, H4550

H. Res. 348, the rule providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 953) was agreed to yesterday, May 23rd.

Permitting official photographs of the House of Representatives to be taken while the House is in actual session on a date designated by the Speaker: The House agreed to discharge from committee and agree to H. Res. 350, permitting official photographs of the House of Representatives to be taken while the House is in actual session on a date designated by the Speaker.

Page H4553

Authorizing the use of Emancipation Hall in the Capitol Visitor Center for an event to celebrate the birthday of King Kamehameha I: The House agreed to discharge from committee and agree to S. Con. Res. 14, authorizing the use of Emancipation Hall in the Capitol Visitor Center for an event to celebrate the birthday of King Kamehameha I.

Page H4553

Meeting Hour: Agreed by unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 9 a.m. tomorrow, May 25.

Page H4554

Senate Messages: Messages received from the Senate by the Clerk and subsequently presented to the House today and message received from the Senate appear on pages H5420 and H4528.

Quorum Calls—Votes: Five ye-and-nay votes and four recorded votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H4525, H4525–26, H4526–27, H4527, H4527–28, H4549, H4550, H4551–52, and H4552. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 7:14 p.m.

Committee Meetings

APPROPRIATIONS—DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies held a budget hearing on the Department of Agriculture, Office of the Secretary. Testimony was heard from Sonny Perdue, Secretary, Department of Agriculture; Robert Johansson, Chief Economist, Department of Agriculture; and Michael Young, Budget Officer, Department of Agriculture.

NATIONAL GUARD AND RESERVE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Defense held an oversight hearing on the National Guard and Reserve. Testimony was heard from General Joseph L. Lengyel, U.S. National Guard Bureau; Lieutenant General Charles D. Luckey, Chief, Army Reserve; Vice Admiral Luke M. McCollum, Chief, Navy Reserve; Lieutenant General Rex C. McMillam, Commander, Marine Corps Forces Reserve; and Lieutenant General Maryanne Miller, Chief, Air Force Reserve.

GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government held an oversight hearing on the General Services Administration. Testimony was heard from Timothy O. Horne, Administrator, General Services Administration.

APPROPRIATIONS—CORPS OF ENGINEERS (CIVIL WORKS) AND THE BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development, and Related Agencies held a budget hearing on the Corps of Engineers (Civil Works) and the Bureau of Reclamation. Testimony was heard from Doug Lamont, Senior Official Performing the Duties of the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Civil Works); Lieutenant General Todd Semonite, Commanding General, Chief of Engineers, Army Corp of Engineers; Scott J. Cameron, Acting Assistant Secretary for Water and Science, Department of the Interior; and Alan Mikkelsen, Acting Commissioner, Bureau of Reclamation.

APPROPRIATIONS—DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies held a budget hearing on the Department

of Education. Testimony was heard from Betsy DeVos, Secretary of Education.

APPROPRIATIONS—INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies held a budget hearing on the Indian Health Service. Testimony was heard from the following Department of Health and Human Services, Indian Health Service officials: Chris Buchanan, Acting Director; Ann Church, Acting Director, Office of Finance and Accounting; and Michael Toedt, M.D., Acting Chief Medical Officer.

HIGH RISK AMERICAN INDIAN AND ALASKA NATIVE PROGRAMS (EDUCATION, HEALTHCARE, ENERGY)

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies held an oversight hearing entitled “High Risk American Indian and Alaska Native Programs (Education, Healthcare, Energy)”. Testimony was heard from Melissa Emrey-Arras, Director, Education, Workforce and Income Security Team, Government Accountability Office; Kathleen King, Director, Health Care Team, Government Accountability Office; and Frank Rusco, Director, Natural Resources and Environment Team, Government Accountability Office.

APPROPRIATIONS—DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Homeland Security held a budget hearing on the Department of Homeland Security. Testimony was heard from John F. Kelly, Secretary of Homeland Security.

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY FY 2018 BUDGET REQUEST FOR SEAPOWER AND PROJECTION FORCES

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Seapower and Projection Forces held a hearing entitled “Department of the Navy FY 2018 Budget Request for Seapower and Projection Forces”. Testimony was heard from Vice Admiral William K. Lescher, Deputy Chief of Naval Operations, Integration of Capabilities and Resources, U.S. Navy; Allison F. Stiller, Performing the Duties of Assistant Secretary of the Navy, Research, Development, and Acquisition, U.S. Navy; and Lieutenant General Robert S. Walsh, Deputy Commandant, Combat Development and Integration, U.S. Marine Corps.

GROUND FORCE MODERNIZATION BUDGET REQUEST

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Tactical Air and Land Forces held a hearing entitled

“Ground Force Modernization Budget Request”. Lieutenant General John M. Murray, Deputy Chief of Staff, G-8; Lieutenant General Paul A. Ostrowski, Military Deputy to the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Acquisition, Logistics and Technology); Brigadier General Joe Shrader, Commanding General, Marine Corps Systems Command; and Lieutenant General Gary L. Thomas, Deputy Commandant for Programs and Resources.

THE PRESIDENT’S FISCAL YEAR 2018 BUDGET

Committee on the Budget: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “The President’s Fiscal Year 2018 Budget”. Testimony was heard from Mick Mulvaney, Director, Office of Management and Budget.

EMPOWERING STUDENTS AND FAMILIES TO MAKE INFORMED DECISIONS ON HIGHER EDUCATION

Committee on Education and the Workforce: Subcommittee on Higher Education and Workforce Development held a hearing entitled “Empowering Students and Families to Make Informed Decisions on Higher Education”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on the Western Hemisphere held a markup on H. Res. 201, expressing support to the Government of Argentina for its investigation into the terrorist bombing of the Embassy of Israel in Buenos Aires on March 17, 1992; H. Res. 259, expressing concern and condemnation over the political, economic, social, and humanitarian crisis in Venezuela; H. Res. 336, reaffirming a strong commitment to the United States—Mexico Partnership; and H.R. 1918, the “Nicaragua Investment Conditionality Act of 2017”. H. Res. 201, H. Res. 259, H.R. 1918, and H. Res. 336 were forwarded to the full committee, as amended.

NUCLEAR DEAL FALLOUT: THE GLOBAL THREAT OF IRAN

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on Terrorism, Nonproliferation, and Trade held a hearing entitled “Nuclear Deal Fallout: The Global Threat of Iran”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

OVERSIGHT OF THE ARCHITECT OF THE CAPITOL’S OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

Committee on House Administration: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Oversight of the Architect of the Capitol’s Office of Inspector General”. Testimony was heard from Stephen T. Ayers, Architect of

the Capitol; Christopher P. Failla, Inspector General, Architect of the Capitol; and Beryl H. Davis, Director of Financial Management and Assurance, Government Accountability Office.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on the Judiciary: Full Committee concluded a markup on H.R. 2431, the “Michael Davis, Jr. and Danny Oliver in Honor of State and Local Law Enforcement Act”; H.R. 2407, the “U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services Authorization Act”; and H.R. 2406, the “U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement Authorization Act”. Full Committee held a markup on H.R. 2605, the “Secret Service Reauthorization Act of 2017”. H.R. 2431, H.R. 2407, H.R. 2406, and H.R. 2605 were ordered reported, as amended.

EXAMINING IMPACTS OF FEDERAL NATURAL RESOURCES LAWS GONE ASTRAY

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a hearing entitled “Examining Impacts of Federal Natural Resources Laws Gone Astray”. Testimony was heard from Diane Dillon, County Supervisor, Napa County, California; Celeste Maloy, Deputy Attorney, Washington County, Utah; and public witnesses.

LEGISLATIVE MEASURE

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources held a hearing on the “Community Reclamation Partnerships Act”. Testimony was heard from John Stefanko, Deputy Secretary for the Office of Active and Abandoned Mine Operations, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection; and public witnesses.

EXAMINING ‘SUE AND SETTLE’ AGREEMENTS: PART I

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform: Subcommittee on the Interior, Energy and the Environment; and Subcommittee on Intergovernmental Affairs held a joint hearing entitled “Examining ‘Sue and Settle’ Agreements: Part I”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

EXAMINING THE OVERHEAD COST OF RESEARCH

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology: Subcommittee on Research and Technology; and Subcommittee on Oversight held a joint hearing entitled “Examining the Overhead Cost of Research”. Testimony was heard from Dale Bell, Division Director, Institution and Award Support, National Science

Foundation; John Neumann, Director, Natural Resources and Environment, Government Accountability Office; and public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Full Committee held a markup on H.R. 2518, the “Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2017”; H.R. 2548, the “FEMA Reauthorization Act of 2017”; H.R. 2547, to support the Nation’s veterans by expanding to all Veterans Administration medical professionals the ability to provide physical examinations on eligible veterans and issue the medical certificates required for the operation of a commercial motor vehicle if certain requirements are met; H.R. 1684, the “Disaster Support for Communities and Homeowners Act”; H.R. 2258, the “Active Duty Voluntary Acquisition of Necessary Credentials for Employment Act”; and H.R. 2593, the “Federal Maritime Commission Authorization Act of 2017”. H.R. 2518, H.R. 2548, H.R. 2547, H.R. 1684, H.R. 2258, and H.R. 2593 were ordered reported, as amended.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS BUDGET REQUEST FOR FISCAL YEAR 2018

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Budget Request for Fiscal Year 2018”. Testimony was heard from David J. Shulkin M.D., Secretary, Department of Veterans Affairs.

VETERANS AFFAIRS FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs: Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a hearing entitled “VA Financial Management”. Testimony was heard from Laurie Park, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Finance, Office of Management, Department of Veterans Affairs; Beryl H. Davis, Director, Financial Management and Assurance, Government Accountability Office; Nick Dahl, Deputy Assistant Inspector General for Audits and Evaluations, Office of Inspector General, Department of Veterans Affairs; and a public witness.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Ways and Means: Full Committee held a markup on H.R. 2372, “Veterans Equal Treatment Ensures Relief and Access Now Act”; H.R. 2579, “Broader Options for Americans Act”; and H.R. 2581, the “Verify First Act”. H.R. 2372, H.R. 2579, and H.R. 2581 were ordered reported, as amended.

Committee on Ways and Means: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Hearing on the President’s Fiscal Year 2018 Budget Proposals with U.S. Secretary of the Treasury Steven Mnuchin”. Testimony was heard from Steven T. Mnuchin, Secretary, Department of the Treasury.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR THURSDAY, MAY 25, 2017

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry: to hold hearings to examine the Farm Economy, focusing on perspectives on rural America, 10 a.m., SR-328A.

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Department of Homeland Security, to hold hearings to examine the President’s proposed budget request for fiscal year 2018 for the Department of Homeland Security, 10:30 a.m., SD-138.

Committee on Armed Services: to hold hearings to examine the posture of the Department of the Army in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2018 and the Future Years Defense Program, 9:30 a.m., SD-G50.

Committee on the Budget: to hold hearings to examine the President’s fiscal year 2018 budget proposal, 9:45 a.m., SD-608.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Neil Chatterjee, of Kentucky, and Robert F. Powelson, of Pennsylvania, both to be a Member of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, and Dan R. Brouillette, of Texas, to be Deputy Secretary, all of the Department of Energy, 9:45 a.m., SD-366.

Committee on Finance: to hold hearings to examine the President’s proposed budget request for fiscal year 2018 for the Department of the Treasury, and tax reform, 10 a.m., SD-215.

Committee on Foreign Relations: business meeting to consider S. 722, to impose sanctions with respect to Iran in relation to Iran’s ballistic missile program, support for acts of international terrorism, and violations of human rights, S. 905, to require a report on, and to authorize technical assistance for, accountability for war crimes, crimes against humanity, and genocide in Syria, S. 1141, to ensure that the United States promotes the meaningful participation of women in mediation and negotiation processes seeking to prevent, mitigate, or resolve violent conflict, H.R. 601, to enhance the transparency and accelerate the impact of assistance provided under the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 to promote quality basic education in developing countries, to better enable such countries to achieve universal access to quality basic education and improved learning outcomes, to eliminate duplication and waste, S. Res. 114, expressing the sense of the Senate on humanitarian crises in Nigeria, Somalia, South Sudan, and Yemen, S. Res. 18, reaffirming the United States-Argentina partnership and recognizing Argentina’s economic reforms, S. Res. 176, commemorating the 50th anniversary of the reunification of Jerusalem, an original bill entitled, “Countering Russian Influence in Europe and Eurasia Act of 2017”, the nomination of Scott P. Brown, of New Hampshire, to be Ambassador to New Zealand, and to serve concurrently and without additional compensation as Ambassador to the Independent State of Samoa, Department of State, and routine lists in the Foreign Service, 9:30 a.m., S-116, Capitol.

Subcommittee on Multilateral International Development, Multilateral Institutions, and International Economic, Energy, and Environmental Policy, to hold hearings to examine the United Nations Human Rights Council, 2 p.m., SD-419.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, to hold hearings to examine stopping the shipment of synthetic opioids, focusing on oversight of United States strategy to combat illicit drugs, 9:30 a.m., SD-342.

Committee on the Judiciary: business meeting to consider S. 782, to reauthorize the National Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force Program, and the nominations of Noel J. Francisco, of the District of Columbia, to be Solicitor General of the United States, and Makan Delrahim, of California, and Steven Andrew Engel, of the District of Columbia, both to be an Assistant Attorney General, all of the Department of Justice, Time to be announced, Room to be announced.

Select Committee on Intelligence: to receive a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters, 1 p.m., SH-219.

Full Committee, to receive a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters, 1:45 p.m., SH-219.

Full Committee, to hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters, 2 p.m., SH-219.

House

Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies, budget hearing on the Food and Drug Administration, 10 a.m., 2362-A Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies, budget hearing on the Department of Commerce, 10:30 a.m., H-309 Capitol.

Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies, budget hearing on the Forest Service, 9:30 a.m., 2007 Rayburn.

Committee on Armed Services, Subcommittee on Seapower and Projection Forces, hearing entitled "Department of the Air Force FY 2018 Budget Request for Seapower and Projection Forces", 8 a.m., 2212 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Strategic Forces, hearing entitled "Fiscal Year 2018 Priorities for Nuclear Forces and Atomic Energy Defense Activities", 10 a.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, Full Committee, markup on H. Res. 351, condemning the violence and persecution in Chechnya; H. Res. 354, condemning the violence against peaceful protesters outside the Turkish Ambassador's residence on May 16, 2017, and calling for the perpetrators to be brought to justice and measures to be taken to prevent similar incidents in the future; H. Res. 355, condemning in the strongest terms the terrorist attacks in Manchester, United Kingdom, on May 22, 2017, expressing heartfelt condolences, and reaffirming unwavering support for the special relationship between our peoples and nations in the wake of these attacks; H.R. 2484, the "Women, Peace, and Security Act of 2017"; and S. 371, the "Department of State Authorities Act, Fiscal Year 2017, Improvements Act", 9:30 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Europe, Eurasia, and Emerging Threats, hearing entitled "Violence Outside the Turkish Ambassador's Residence: The Right to Peaceful Protest", 12 p.m., 2200 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, Global Human Rights, and International Organizations, hearing entitled "Vietnam: Why Religious Freedom and Human Rights Are Critical to U.S. National Interest", 12:30 p.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, Subcommittee on Government Operations; and Subcommittee on Intergovernmental Affairs, joint hearing entitled "Improper Payments in the Federal Government: Student Aid", 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Committee on Small Business, Subcommittee on Contracting and Workforce; and Subcommittee on Investigations, Oversight, and Regulations, joint hearing entitled "All Work and No Pay: Change Orders Delayed for Small Construction Contractors", 10 a.m., 2360 Rayburn.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

10:30 a.m., Thursday, May 25

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

9 a.m., Thursday, May 25

Senate Chamber

Program for Thursday: Senate will continue consideration of the nomination of Amul R. Thapar, of Kentucky, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Sixth Circuit, post-cloture, and vote on confirmation of the nomination at 1:30 p.m.

House Chamber

Program for Thursday: Consideration of H.R. 1973—Protecting Young Victims from Sexual Abuse Act. Consideration of H.R. 1761—Protecting Against Child Exploitation Act.

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